



hat does the principle of sowing and reaping have to do with sexual intimacy between a husband and wife? Everything. Paul told the Galatians, "Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" and went on to say, "Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Galatians 6:7, 9).

Men ask, "What do women want?" Wrong question! Why? Because the question implies that there's some technique, phrase, or gift that will turn an unwilling woman into a lust-filled lady. A better question is: "What does my wife want *from me?*" A farmer who prepares during the sowing season increases his chances for a great harvest. In the same way, the husband who creates the best environment, conditions, and protection for his wife has a greater chance of reaping a sexually satisfying relationship for himself and his wife. A husband can begin by planting the following SEEDS:

SECURITY - Women are bombarded with images of what a "perfect body" should look like from the media's perspective. Reassure your bride that she is perfect in your eyes. Make your arms a safe refuge from the world, where she can confidently relax and enjoy herself. Protect her both with your words and your actions.



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ENJOYMENT – Giving your wife pleasure creates an appetite for more intimacy. Ask your wife what satisfies her sexually. Delight her—don't demand from her. Unfortunately, too often there is a link between sexual performance and guilt that God never intended. Patience, prayer, and passion will break that link so a husband and wife can truly enjoy each other.

EXCHANGE - Women want to feel an emotional exchange as well as a physical connection. Communicate with your wife. Tell her what you love about her, why you appreciate her, how much you need her, and how grateful you are for her. She will never grow tired of hearing this from you. Never. Ever.

DEVOTION - Your wife doesn't want to share you. Period. A sexually responsive wife needs to know her husband is loyal in word, thought, and deed. Protect your heart, mind, and soul from distracting relationships, conversations, publications, websites, and any form of "entertainment" that threatens to destroy your marriage.

SUPPORT – Women's lives are busy: They juggle kids, appointments, jobs, ministry, and housework, among other things. Lend a hand. Ask your wife, "How can I help you?" Talk about an aphrodisiac! An exhausted wife is unlikely to be sexually responsive, but an *appreciative*, exhausted wife will have a more responsive heart towards sexual intimacy.

Sexual intimacy is one of God's gifts to married couples. Developing it is a process. Become a student of your wife. Learn what conditions are optimum for *her*. Start planting the seeds of intimacy and do not grow weary. Soon you will be reaping a harvest of beautiful, holy, and delightful sexual intimacy, just as God intended.